

REMARKS

Claims 17 and 20-30 are pending in the application, and stand rejected.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C §103

Claims 17, 20-24 and 26-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,790,074 to Rangedahl et al. in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,370,629 to Hastings et al. Applicants continue to disagree with the Examiner regarding this rejection but, in the interest of passing this case to issue, have canceled claims 17 and 20-30 without prejudice and expressly reserving the right to present these claims in further related applications.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C §102

Claims 31-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2002/0051540 to Glick. Glick claims an earliest priority of October 30, 2000. The present application claims an earliest priority of May 24, 2000, as evinced by certified priority document GB 0012445.3 submitted herewith. Applicants thus submit that the rejection of claims 31-32 in view of Glick is improper and request the Examiner to withdraw this rejection and pass these claims to issue.

The present paper further presents new claims 33-34, which are system claims corresponding to method claims 31-32. Applicants submit that these claims are likewise novel and non-obvious in view of the cited art and respectfully request the Examiner to pass these claims to issue.

Regarding the prior art made of record by the Examiner but not relied upon, Applicants believe that this art does not render the pending claims unpatentable.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and respectfully urge the Examiner to pass this case to issue.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 08-2025. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 08-2025.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

July 22, 2005

(Date of Transmission)

Mia Kim

(Name of Person Transmitting)

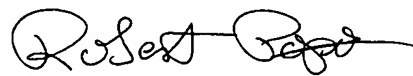


(Signature)

7/22/05

(Date)

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments: Certified priority document GB 0012445.3